

Appl. No. 09/756,805
Amdt. Dated 10/21/2005
Response to Office action dated 04/21/2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Canceled)

Claim 2 (Currently amended): An electronic bulletin board system including a server computer with an electronic bulletin board function communicating with at least one user computer via a network for mediating information exchange therebetween, said server computer comprising:

a first database as a notable words collection storing a plurality of words that are appropriately selected;

a second database storing a plurality of records with text data;

a logic device inspecting a message text sent from a user computer of a person who wants to post a message by consulting the notable words collection, wherein

the message text is posted on the bulletin board when the message text does not include a notable word in the notable words collection;

the second database is searched by using the notable word as a keyword when the message text includes a notable word in the notable words collection, and if ~~the no records record~~ including the notable word ~~does not~~ exist in the second database, then the message text is posted on the bulletin board; and

when ~~the~~ a record including the notable word exists as a result of searching the second database, the word in the message text is converted into a hypertext format having a URL generated properly to which the word is linked as a link destination, and the message text is posted on the bulletin board, the URL being so described as to constitute a start instruction to a search report program, which reports a result of searching the second database by using the notable word as a keyword, and

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when the URL is sent from a specific user computer, the search report program is executed to return a set of report screen data of the search result to the specific user computer.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): An electronic bulletin board system according to claim 2, wherein each record stored in the second database is linked with a corresponding URL, and the search report program generates a set of screen data including a hypertext having the URL to which the obtained record is linked as a link destination.

Claim 4 (Canceled)

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A mail server receiving an e-mail sent from a user computer via a network and sending the e-mail to the network directed to an e-mail address of a recipient of the e-mail, said mail server comprising:

- a first database as a notable words collection storing a plurality of words that are appropriately selected;

- a second database storing a plurality of records, each of the records including text data;

- a logic device inspecting a message text in an e-mail sent from a user computer by consulting the notable words collection, wherein

- the e-mail is sent to the e-mail address of the recipient when the message text does not include a notable word in the notable words collection;

- the second database is searched by using the notable word as a keyword when the message text includes a notable word in the notable words collection, and if ~~the record~~ no records including the notable word ~~does not~~ exist in the second database, then sending the e-mail to the recipient; and

- when the a record including the notable word exists as a result of searching the second database, the notable word in the message text is converted into a hypertext format having a URL generated properly to which the notable word is linked as a link destination, and the e-mail is sent to the recipient, the URL being so described as to constitute a start instruction to a search report program, which reports a result of searching the second database by using the notable word as a keyword, and

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when the URL is sent from a specific user computer, the search report program is executed to send a set of report screen data of the search result to the specific user computer.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): A mail server according to claim 5, wherein each of the records stored in the second database is linked with a corresponding URL, and the search report program generates a set of screen data including a hypertext having the URL to which the obtained record is linked as a link destination.

Claim 7 (Canceled)

Claim 8 (Currently amended): A method of operating an electronic bulletin board system including a server computer with an electronic bulletin board function communicating with at least one user computer via a network for mediating information exchange therebetween, comprising:

inspecting a message text sent from a user computer of a person who wants to post a message by consulting a first database as a notable words collection storing a plurality of words that are appropriately selected;

posting the message text on the bulletin board when the message text does not include a notable word in the notable words collection;

searching a second database by using the notable word as a keyword when the message text includes a notable word in the notable words collection, and posting the message text on the bulletin board if ~~the record~~ no records including the notable word ~~does not~~ exist in the second database, the second database storing a plurality of records including text data; and

when ~~the~~ a record including the notable word exists as a result of searching the text database, the notable word in the message text is converted into a hypertext format having a URL generated properly to which the word is linked as a link destination, and the message text is posted on the bulletin board, the URL being so described as to constitute a start instruction to a search report program, which reports a result of searching the second database by using the notable word as a keyword, and

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when the URL is sent from a specific user computer, the search report program is executed to return a set of report screen data of the search result to the specific user computer.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): A method of operating an electronic bulletin board system according to claim 8, wherein each record stored in the second database is linked with a corresponding URL, and the search report program generates a set of screen data including a hypertext having the URL to which the obtained record is linked as a link destination.

Claim 10 (Canceled):

Claim 11 (Currently amended): A method of operating a mail server for receiving an e-mail sent from a user computer via a network and sending the e-mail to the network directed to an e-mail address of a recipient of the e-mail, comprising:

inspecting a message text in an e-mail sent from a user computer by consulting a first database as a notable words collection storing a plurality of words that are appropriately selected;

sending the e-mail to the e-mail address of the recipient when the text does not include a notable word in the notable words collection;

searching a second database storing a plurality of records, each of which including text data, by using the notable word as a keyword when the message text includes a notable word in the notable words collection, and if ~~the record~~ no records including the notable word ~~does not~~ exist in the second database, then sending the e-mail to the recipient; and

when ~~the~~ a record including the notable word exists as a result of searching the second database, converting the notable word in the message text into a hypertext format having a URL generated properly to which the notable word is linked as a link destination, and sending the e-mail to the recipient, the URL being so described as to constitute a start instruction to a search report program, which reports a result of searching the second database by using the notable word as a keyword, and

when the URL is sent from a specific user computer, executing the search report program to send a set of report screen data of the search result to the specific user computer.

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Claim 12 (Previously presented): A method of operating a mail server according to claim 11, wherein each of the records stored in the second database is linked with a corresponding URL, and the search report program generates a set of screen data including a hypertext having the URL to which the obtained record is linked as a link destination.